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# The NATIONAL GREENKEEPER

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National Association  
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America

## Association Faces Crucial Year

BY JOHN MORLEY, *President*  
*The National Association of Greenkeepers of America*

I HAVE been prompted to write this article from the inspiration which I have received lately from leading members of our fraternity throughout the United States and Canada. It is a well known fact that the third year of any new organization whether it is social, civic or fraternal is the crucial period which often denotes whether an association will live or die. The third year often brings out the true characteristics of its membership. If the large percentage of membership during this period is composed of men of an arbitrary and disagreeable disposition, as a general rule such an association soon dies a natural death. If the membership has a large percentage that are loyal to its aims and objects, you can look forward to one that will prosper and live.

Sufficient time has now elapsed since our institution for the average member, as well as for many outside of our association, to realize the facts that I acted wisely in our infancy to proceed slowly and to the best of our ability to select for our membership those whom we believed were greenkeepers, not in name only but in deeds also. A glance over our official stationery will reveal to you over half a hundred greenkeepers representing the Executive Committee and District vice-presidents, as well as various important committeemen. As far as I can learn not one is a discredit to the association or our profession.

These greenkeepers represent the foundation of our structure. That our methods are sound and progressive with a willingness and a desire to co-operate with others interested in golf maintenance, is demonstrated by the fact that every president of the United States Golf Association since our institution has been and is now in accord with our aims and objects and all three of these presidents, Messrs. Fownes, Traylor and Douglas are honorary members of our association.

### Reduced Fares to Louisville

John Morley, president of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America has made arrangements with Geo. Jones, City Passenger Agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Ry., to secure reduced fares for all who attend the Louisville Convention of Greenkeepers in February. Complete information will be furnished to those who plan to attend by writing the office of the Show Committee, 405 Caxton Bldg., Cleveland.

Never in the history of golf has there been a closer tie between the greenkeeper and the chairman of the Green committee. To a large extent this has been brought about by our association and the publicity given out by the magazine published in our behalf. Among the many communications received from men in all walks of life interested in golf and golf maintenance I often get a few that appear to me amusing. Please pardon me for quoting one of these; he said that he would like to belong to the association but we did not practice what we preached. That we had a committee on Standards but have done nothing towards standardization of the wages of a greenkeeper.

To this co-worker and to others who may share his views I can simply state that he has been misinformed, or else looks at it from a

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different angle from the association. Through publicity we are endeavoring to standardize practical knowledge and efficient service and the remunerations of a greenkeeper will always be based on these merits in conjunction with only two persons—the greenkeeper and Green committee chairman. During the season just past it has been very gratifying to learn that a large number of greenkeepers have had their wages advanced through above methods.

### Bright Outlook for Louisville

A GREAT number of letters received from members contain the information that they are anxiously awaiting for the time to arrive for the Fourth Annual Golf Show, Conference and Convention to renew old acquaintances and to meet with new ones. So far indications are that notwithstanding the distance from the bulk of our membership, the attendance will be larger

than any we have previously held.

From far away Minneapolis comes word from one of our charter members, Charles Erickson stating their district would be well represented. One writes from the Boston district God willing I will be there. Kansas City, Saint Louis, Cincinnati, Columbus, Indianapolis, Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, New York, Philadelphia, Newark, Cleveland, Toledo and Toronto, Canada as well as a large number of members where there are no district associations say they will attend. Several of our members have informed me that owing to the distance they will have to travel that their Green committee chairman has promised to help to pay their expenses.

While we have no apologies to offer for any of our recent Golf Shows we have every reason to believe that the coming events will surpass any of the previous ones. With this in view we have secured more floor space than we had at Buffalo, the large Armory building situated in the heart of the city of Louisville and within two blocks of our headquarters. That these Golf Shows are profitable as well as instructive is shown by the enthusiasm displayed by the various exhibitors of golf maintenance. Past experience with Golf shows has given Fred A. Burkhardt and his able assistants an opportunity to make greater progress each year. The midnight show which was a grand success at Buffalo will be given with a lot of added attractions. The conferences which will be held will endeavor to obtain the best talent available.

Owing to the fact that a large number of members are going to take their wives to Louisville the Association of Wives of National Greenkeepers will hold their reunion and convention. George Davies has promised to have a good Reception committee to take good care of them and see that they have a good time.

Louisville is known all over the country as one of the best cities in which to hold any convention. The support and co-operation of the Louisville District Golf Association and the greenkeepers marshalled by that old-timer George Davies gives to you an idea that those who fail to attend will miss one of the greatest gatherings of greenkeepers, progresskeepers and chairmen of Green committees ever held.

We want every member to be a booster for Louisville. Remember the date—February 4-8, 1930.

## A Sensible Plan for Real Turf Development

After all is said and done, turf on greens and fairways, makes or mars a golf course. The *only* way you can make sure of having good turf is to start with a complete, accurate knowledge of what your course requires, then build up the turf according to a systematic, scientific plan laid out by specialists who *know* turf needs and how to meet them.

### Make a Scientific Soil Survey

A soil survey is the first step. This reveals all the secrets of your soil—secrets which no one is smart enough to discover without the aid of microscopic and chemical analyses. Practically every golf course covers several different types of soils, all requiring distinctly different treatments.

### Follow A Systematic Turf Program

Make the soil survey the basis for the turf building program, including proper soil conditioning, suitable and adequate drainage, selection of grasses best suited to climate, soil and usage, necessary fertilizers, careful seeding, good care, and, in most instances a system of artificial watering.

### How to Do It

Put your problem up to us. The making of soil surveys with complete reports and recommendations for turf programs as described above, is part of our regular specialized soil and drainage engineering service. Its cost is nominal. It not only often prevents wasteful expenditure of thousands of dollars, but results in good turf, better playing conditions, and much longer playing seasons. It is the best way to win the enthusiastic approval of your playing membership.

We will gladly give you full particulars

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